Pralambhasura Puppet Show
by Bhavatarini devi dasi
from the Krsna Book Chapter 18

Narrator: Vrndavan is such a nice place. Flowers are always blooming there and there are even various kinds of decorated deer. Birds are chirping, peacocks are dancing and crowing and bees are always humming around. The cuckoos there sing nicely in five kinds of tunes. (sound of flute) Krsna the Reservoir of Pleasure, blowing on His flute, accompanied by His elder brother Balarama and all the other cowherd boys and cows entered the beautiful forest of Vrndavana to enjoy the pleasing atmosphere.

Song: Krsna Krsna the Reservoir of Pleasure
Balarama Balarama is His elder Brother
Krsna Krsna the Reservoir of Pleasure
Krsna Krsna blowing on His flute;
Balarama friends and cows in His company
Entering the forest of Vrndavan happily
Krsna, Krsna the Reservoir of Pleasure
Balarama, Balarama is His elder Brother.

All: (Birds chirping, peacocks cooing, forest sounds, flute) Haribol! Haribol!

1st Gopa: Bring the cows! Krsna Your cows are straying! Call them back!

Krsna: Hey, Krsangi, Manikatani, Pranatasingi - stay in line! Come over here!

All: Haribol, haribol!

2nd Gopa: I'm stronger than You, Balarama. I'll wrestle with You and prove it!

Balarama: No, you're not! Let's wrestle! (Lots of wrestling noises)

3rd Gopa: You can't beat me!

4th Gopa: Hey, these flowers look like peacock feathers!

1st Gopa: I can jump higher than you!

2nd Gopa: No, you can't!

1st Gopa: Let's play hide and seek!

4th Gopa: I found you. I found you. Haribol, haribol! (sound of flute)

1st Gopa: Jai, Balarama!

Balarama: Just see, Krsna is dancing.

1st Gopa: Jai! He is dancing very nicely!
(starts chanting Maha Mantra)

Krsna: My dear friends, you are singing and dancing very nicely!

1st Gopa: Throw me that bell fruit!

2nd Gopa: Here, catch!

1st Gopa: Throw me another one!

1st Gopa: Got it!

Balarama: Let's play Blind Man's Bluff. You're it!

Krsna: It's Vrsabha.

All: (laughter) Jai!

1st Gopa: Look, I'm a deer!

1st Gopa: Look at me! I'm a frog!

All: Ribbet, Ribbet, Ribbet.

4th Gopa: I'm a frog, too! Ribbet, Ribbet!

Balarama: I'm a bird! I'm a peacock! Mayaa! Mayaa! Mayaa!

Krsna: I'm a king. Now dear subjects, you must do whatever I say! My wishes are your commands.

All: Haribol! Haribol!

Narrator: In this way, Krsna the Supreme Personality of Godhead, spent the Summer season enjoying childhood play with all His friends. The Summer season in India is not very welcome due to the excessive heat. But, the summer in Vrndavana appeared to be just like Spring, because Krsna and Balarama, Who are the controllers of everything, preside there. The inhabitants of Vrndavana were never disturbed by the scorching heat of the sun or the high temperatures. Surrounded by sweet breezes, crystal lakes, gentle waves of the Yamuna, melodious waterfalls and lush scenery, Krsna and His friends engaged in Their transcendental pastimes while tending the cows. (Sounds of flute, chanting and buffalo horns. Then, change music to Demon Music)

Prahlamba: Hah! These two brothers, Krsna and Balarama are merely young cowherd boys. I will easily conquer them! Ha Ha Ha! I am Prahlambhasura, the great demon! My bodily strength is unrivalled. These two boys are not a match for me. Just the sound of my name strikes terror into the hearts of everyone. Ha Ha Ha! I have killed my enemies and now my other enemies will be killed! I am the lord of everything. I am the enjoyer. I am perfect, powerful and happy. There is none so powerful and happy as I am. Yes, and I am very clever, as well. By my mystic powers, I will disguise myself as a cowherd boy and kidnap these two Brothers. Then, with great pleasure, I will kill them! Ha ha ha!! (dramatic music)

Narrator: Disguised as a cowherd boy, the great demon, Prahlambasura, entered the company of all the other cowherd boys, desiring to kidnap both Balarama and Krsna, and kill Them.

Krsna: Although I am playing the part of a cowherd boy, as the Supreme Personality of Godhead, I can understand that this boy who is approaching us is actually a demon. Hmmm ... let me think of how to kill him. I will appear to receive him as a friend. (to Prahlambhasura) O my dear friend, it is very good that you have come to take part in Our pastimes.

Prahlambha: Yes, I am so glad to be here.

Krsna: Now we shall play in pairs.

Prahlambha: Good, I like to play!

Krsna: We shall challenge one another in pairs. Come on everyone. Let's play in a dueling fight! We'll have two parties I'll have one side and Balarama , You take the other. The defeated members will have to carry the winners on their backs.

1st Gopa: Vrshabha, we're on Balarama's team.

2nd Gopa: I'm on Krsna's side, our dear new friend, you join us on Krsna's team.

Prahlambha: Alright, I think that I...I mean we ... will be victorious.

Narrator: They began playing and at the same time tended the cows as they proceeded through
the Vrndavana forest.

Balarama: Watch out! Watch out! I'm going to push you! Oh boy!
(lots of fighting sounds and excited yells, laughing and chanting of Haribol)

3rd Gopa: Oh, you beat me!

4th Gopa: I win! I win!
(The party of Balarama accompanied by Sridhama came out victorious.)

Balarama: We win Now, Krsna, Your group must carry Mine on your backs! Krsna, you carry Sridhama. Badrasena, you carry Vrshaba. Pralambha, you carry Me.

1st Gopa: Get on. Hold still, wait!

4th Gopa: Are you ready?

Prahlambha: AreYou ready? (to himself) I am the greatest of the demons and I can understand
that this Krsna is the most powerful of the cowherd boys - better to avoid His company.
I will carry Balarama far away! (to boys) Okay! Let's go!

Narrator: In order to avoid the company of Krsna, Pralambhasura carried Balarama far away into the forest. The demon was undoubtedly very strong and powerful, but he was carrying Balarama who is compared to a mountain. Therefore, he began to feel the burden and thus assumed him real form. (Demon music)

Balarama: Alas! This carrier has suddenly changed in every way. Decorated with a golden helmet and earrings, he looks just like a cloud with lightning, carrying the moon. His body is expanding to the limits of the clouds. His eyes are dazzling like blazing fire and mouth is flashing with sharpened teeth. Hmmmm ... he is carrying Me away from My friends in order to kill Me. I'll strike him with my fist. (sound of fist striking the head of Pralambasura)

Prahlambha: (moaning)Ahhhhhhhhh (Pralambhasura falls down with a great crash!)

All: Balarama! Balarama!

Krsna: Balarama has killed the demon with His strong fist - just as the king of the
Heavenly planets strikes a mountain with his thunder bolt! Well done! Well done!

All: Jai Balarama!

1st Gopa: The demon has fallen down dead just like a snake with a smashed head and blood
pouring from his mouth!

All: Well done! Well done! Well done!

2nd Gopa: Balarama, You have been saved from death!

3rd Gopa: May You always be safe!

Narrator: All of the cowherd boys embraced Balarama with great affection, offering their blessings and congratulations. All the demigods in the heavenly planets became very satisfied and showered flowers on the transcendental body of Lord Balarama.

(sounds of chanting and conchshells blowing)

Thus, the demon, thinking he was invincible, was sure of success, but he was tricked
by Krsna and Balarama, and thus he was liberated.

Song: Krsna Krsna the Reservoir of Pleasure
Balarama Balarama is His elder Brother
Krsna Krsna the Reservoir of Pleasure

Krsna Krsna blowing on His flute;
Balarama friends and cows in His company
Entering the forest of Vrndavan happily
Krsna, Krsna the Reservoir of Pleasure
Balarama, Balarama is His elder Brother.
Prahlambasura came to steal the transcendental brothers
Krsna knew he was bad but He treated him like the others
Let's play here today in a dueling fight
The ones who lose they must take the winners for a ride
Krsna had to carry Sridhama, Prahlambasura Balarama
Carried Balarama far away thinking he would kill Him
Like a mountain Balarama weighed, He began to crush him.
Prahlambasura took his form as a big, black demon
Balarama saw his form expanded to the limits
Like a cloud with lightning carrying the moon
Balarama wondered how he's changed in every way
With His strong fist He did strike the demon on his head
Like a snake, like a snake, a snake with a smashed head
Krsna and the cowherd boys came
Well done, well done they did all exclaim
Krsna, Krsna the Reservoir of Pleasure
Balarama, Balarama is His elder Brother.